

THE WHIG STANDARD.



"Flag of the free! thy folds shall fly,
The sign of hope and triumph nigh."

FOR PRESIDENT,
HENRY CLAY,
OF KENTUCKY.

WASHINGTON.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 2, 1844.

Van Buren's opinion of the present Tariff.
The letter published by the Richmond Enquirer places this opinion on record, without equivocation, and it is well to keep it in mind:

"ALBANY, Feb. 28, 1843.
"My Dear Sir:—I thank you very kindly for your friendly letter. I HAVE AT NO TIME, NOR ANY WHERE, HESITATED TO EXPRESS MY DECIDED DISAPPROBATION OF THE TARIFF ACT OF THE LAST SESSION, AS WELL IN RESPECT TO THE PRINCIPLE UPON WHICH IT IS FOUNDED, AS TO ITS DETAILS. In good time you will have my views in respect to that and other subjects before the public.
In the mean time, believe me to be, very sincerely, your friend and obedient servant,
MARTIN VAN BUREN."

WHIG STANDARD OFFICE.

The Publication Office of the Whig Standard is now located on Pennsylvania Avenue, between 3d and 4th streets, next door to Beers' Temperance Hotel. Advertisements, &c., will be received there, or at our Printing Office, corner of 10th Street.

A "FIX."

The Locofoco party is, at this time, in a situation which we cannot better describe than by terming it "such a fix." In the first place, they have no definite object in view. In one section of the country they demand a Tariff; in another, they will have no Tariff. One half of the party are ready to sacrifice every thing upon the issue of annexing Texas to the Union, while the other wing of the party are unqualifiedly opposed to the measure. And, in reference to men, they have an aspirant to the chief command in every quarter of the Union. There are two names at present, however, which seem to attract the greatest share of public attention, and between which the Democracy will soon be called upon to decide. Van Buren and Tyler are the living embodiments of the opposing wings of the party; and between whom the choice is likely to fall. Mr. Van Buren is in favor of a "judicious Tariff" of protection, and Mr. Tyler, who represents the Calhoun interest, must of course be opposed to all protection. Mr. Van Buren is opposed to the annexation of Texas, and, "if elected President," would not feel authorized, under existing circumstances, to take steps which would dismember Mexico, and produce war; on the other hand, the Texas party, and, of course, Captain Tyler, think the Union itself unworthy of preservation, unless their darling scheme of robbing Mexico can be accomplished. A compromise effected under such circumstances, between such opposite and conflicting interests, would be the most masterly stroke of diplomacy ever heard of.

We cannot imagine a question of greater perplexity than that which will come before the Locofoco Convention, which is to assemble at Baltimore the latter part of this month. They must take Tyler, Texas, and Free Trade, or Van Buren, no Texas, and "Judicious Protection," not to mention minor differences in reference to the Sub-Treasury, the Exchequer, &c.

We predict a sub-marine explosion to the whole concern; and the sooner the better for the honor and welfare of the country. It will be impossible to bring such discordant materials into union, or to reconcile factions so selfishly constituted. Tyler and Van Buren will be equally averse to yielding, and we have no doubt that each will hold on with the tenacity which binds them to existence. A "compromise" between two old demagogues in such a case, would be nothing less than a surrender of the whole game of life; and nothing can be more preposterous than to look for it. Let them make a "Kilkenny Cat" affair of it, and the country will be all the more happy and prosperous.

But we feel no fears for the result of the Presidential election in any event. Let either faction of Locofocoism swallow its words, and walk into the ranks of the other—let them harmonize if they can, and the Whigs will achieve a triumph which has had but one parallel in the history of parties.

The Whigs, on the contrary, are united, intrepid, and true. Hardly a shade of difference diversifies their principles, and all agree that Henry Clay is the most fitting person to lead them on to victory. No party ever enjoyed a better prospect of success, or better deserved it.

The engineers and firemen of the various fire companies, in Brooklyn, New York, held a meeting on Friday evening last, and resolved to exclude all boys, and persons not belonging to the companies, from the engine houses.

AN INCONGRUITY.

It is contended by the advocates for the immediate annexation of Texas, that if we refuse to receive her into the Union now that she offers to surrender herself into the Federal embrace, her necessities will force her to look elsewhere for aid and protection. It is asserted that Texas is unable to continue the unequal fight with Mexico, and that self-preservation will force the "lone Star" to sacrifice her independence at the shrine of British ambition. This argument is boldly put forth by every advocate of the measure, from Capt. Tyler and Senator Walker down to John Jones. Now mark how completely these candid and veracious gentlemen sweep away the foundation of this argument when pressed in another point. The enemies to annexation contend that we have no right to receive Texas into the Union so long as she continues at war with Mexico, and that such a step must necessarily produce war with the latter, which claims Texas as a revolted province. But to this the advocates of the measure answer, that Texas is independent, and has demonstrated that she is capable of remaining so—in a word, that the state of hostilities with the mother country is merely nominal, and is maintained with no view of ultimate success. If this be true, then there can be no necessity for her rushing into the arms of England. If Mexico is only able to annoy her frontiers, without the power to subjugate, or even to injure Texas seriously, there can be no necessity for annexation to prevent her from making European alliances. On the other hand, if Mexico has it in her power to re-conquer Texas, then Texas is not really independent, but merely a province of Mexico in a state of revolt, and to take possession of it by the United States would be a breach of national faith. The annexationists must take one or the other horn of the dilemma; and in no way will they be able to reconcile the weak sophistries by which this wicked scheme has been defended.

THE MARCH OF INTELLECT.—We perceive that several of our more elite exchanges have found an elegant substitute for the figurative sense of the word "green" which is understood to signify a want of experience. The want of worldly wisdom is now classically expressed by the term "verdant."

We shall be glad if some of our literary cotemporaries would attempt the sublimation of the homely phrase of "running," "going," "fighting," &c., "upon his own hook." We have attempted to translate it into more elegant language, but have not been able to satisfy ourselves; the necessity for some varnishing is quite apparent since the phrase has got into high life, and is not unfrequently applied to the most elevated pursuits. A Whig editor, for instance, says that Captain Tyler intends to "run upon his own hook," in case he is not made the nominee of the Locofoco Baltimore Convention.

THE TYLER CONVENTION AT BOSTON.—A gentleman present at the Tyler Convention held at old Faneuil Hall, Boston, on the 25th instant, informs us that it was anything but a Tyler Convention. At the close of the farce, it was voted that three cheers be given for John Tyler. The attempt was made, and not six voices could be heard except in dismal groans. Three cheers were then proposed for Henry Clay, and at once the old Cradle of Liberty resounded with nine most hearty cheers, from at least three-fourths there assembled. The Bay State Democrat says that the meeting was almost entirely composed of Whigs and Van Burenites.

THE FUR TRADERS.—The St. Louis Republican of the 18th says: "Captain Cabanne, with a portion of his company, have arrived in town from the north fork of the river Platte. They report their trip as very successful. The reverse is reported of the trade on the south fork of the Platte and on the Upper Arkansas. The arrival this season is much earlier than usual."

DEATH AT AN ELECTION.—The Montreal Pilot is dressed in black for the death of J. S. Champagne, one of the supporters of Mr. Drummond, who was bayoneted to death by the government soldiery in the Queen's ward, on the day of the recent election.

MAR YOHANNAN.—Mr. Stocking, at Ooroomiah, says: "The Bishop Mar Yohannan is now in the village, interesting the people with the wonderful things he has seen and heard in the New World. I am told that he is preaching on temperance, and actually obtaining names to the pledge."

Miss La Forrest, the daughter of the actress of that name, is now lying dangerously ill at Philadelphia, in consequence of having been magnetized. She is not expected to live.

The number of foreigners reported as having arrived at New York during a little less than fourteen years, from January 1, 1830, to November 1, 1843, is 660,617.

Two more cotton houses in New York stopped on Friday, in consequence of the bursting up or the cotton-speculation in Liverpool.

Gen. Thompson, late Minister of the United States to Mexico, arrived at his residence in South Carolina last week.

John B. Cummings, under arrest at New Orleans for the murder of his wife, committed suicide on the 19th ult., by cutting his throat.

CORRECT VIEWS.

We are glad to see that the Republic, the able Calhoun paper published in the city of New York, expresses the opinion, in view, we presume, of the state of facts developed by the surreptitious publication of the Treaty and accompanying correspondence, that "it is time the Government should pause," and that while the editor is in favor of annexation, he "would not preceptitate the country into difficulties which it might cost an expenditure of blood and treasure to escape from."

HONESTY THE BEST POLICY.

The passage of the Pennsylvania Tax Bill, says the New York Republic, has, in conjunction with the increased confidence in the low rate of money, caused a great rise in stocks. Pennsylvania 5's immediately rose 3½ per cent. This was to be expected, and we doubt not that Pennsylvania reputation will rise higher than her stocks in this country and in Europe, in consequence of the honorable course she has pursued.

We omitted to mention on yesterday, that Mr. Spencer, the Secretary of Treasury, tendered his resignation of that office on Tuesday. It is said that Mr. S. "quits" in no very good humor, and without the prospect of the Russian embassy, as has been rumoured. A Mr. Green, of New Jersey, it is reported, will succeed him.

WANT LONGER TIME.—The Eutaw (Alabama) Whig, of a recent date says: "There has been a wagon in the street during this week, advertised for sale, payable when Mr. Clay is elected to the Presidency. Not sold yet. People in these parts want a longer credit."

Why is the act of the Pennsylvania Legislature for laying a three mill tax, like the burning of Heretics? Dye give it up? Because it is an *auto da fe*—an act of faith.

A GOOD GO.—The Augusta, Me. Farmer leads off with a column upon the text—"Go it while you're young," and in the course of his article the editor exhorts his readers to be careful how and which way they "go it;" he tells them to "go it" for virtue; "go it" for education, intelligence, wisdom, &c.; "go it" for temperance; "go it" for strict honesty; "go it" for early rising; "go it" for matrimony, and in all your "goings" don't forget to "go it" for a newspaper. We "go the same."—*Bay State Democrat.*

[And we will add, "go it" for Clay.]—*Editor Standard.*

THE LOCOS AND THE TARIFF.—The Hartford (Connecticut) Journal thus comments upon the varied tariff principles of the Locofocos. Verily, they are a harmonious party!

"How WILL YOU HAVE IT?—The Locos in this State are crying out for a change in the Tariff; in Alabama, for a repeal of the Tariff; in Louisiana, for a Tariff that will protect sugar; in Vermont, for a Tariff that will protect wool; in Michigan, for no Tariff; in New York, for a judicious Tariff; in South Carolina, for a horizontal Tariff and no Tariff; in Indiana, for a less Tariff; in New Hampshire, for a least Tariff, &c.; horizontal, judicious, incidental, equal, more, less, least—no Tariff! But the last opinion of the Locofoco-accuracy is embodied in a resolution of the Locofocos of Harrisburg, held on the 17th ultimo:

"Resolved, as the sense of this meeting, That the existing Tariff nothing more nor less than sufficiently protects the manufacturing, mining, agricultural, and laboring interests of Pennsylvania."

"So ho! Is it there you are? The existing Tariff is just the thing after all! Very well! But it is a marvel that there should be such a diversity of opinions on this matter among the 'harmonious Locofoco' party. It is outrageous in the Whigs, without doubt, to thus expose their inconsistency, or, to use their own language, to 'agitate' the Tariff. The Whigs should allow them to preach one doctrine in one place, another in another, &c., and humbug the people in quiet; but they won't!"

HENRY CLAY AGAINST ANNEXATION.—We give up much of our paper to-day to Mr. Clay's bold letter against the Annexation of Texas, from Saturday's National Intelligencer. We hold that the publication of this letter at this time, when time-serving politicians are most earnestly concealing their opinions lest they should lose strength with one side or the other—we say that the publication of this letter at this time, by a man from a slave holding State, who is now a candidate for the Presidency, and may be made a President by slave holding votes—manifest a bold and lofty frankness, a magnanimous disregard of personal consequences, a self-forgetting patriotism, a contempt for petty cunning, worthy of the greatest admiration. No man can pursue so bold a line of conduct, unless patriotism over-rides personal ambition in his bosom.—*Trenton Gaz.*

HON. KENNETH RAYNER.—We have seen a letter recently written by the distinguished gentleman, whose name heads this article, from which we regret most sincerely to learn that his health, which has been very bad through the winter, has undergone no improvement. Whilst his friends deeply deplore the loss of his eminent services from the halls of Congress—and still more in the cause of Whig principles, they indulge the hope that the All-wise Disposer of Events will vouchsafe unto him a speedy restoration of health. The known energy and fidelity with which our distinguished Representative has discharged his whole circle of duties, render apology or excuse to his friends, of his seeming neglect, unnecessary.

But it is painfully mortifying to Mr. Rayner, to know that whilst suffering under a disease which has thus far baffled all medical skill, that certain members of the Locofoco party should be endeavoring to make political capital of his unavoidable absence from his seat in the House. We are sure that the great mass of that party are not so destitute of justice as to require of a fellow-being an impossibility—disease and death is the common lot of all.

We will hereafter keep our readers advised of the state of Mr. R.'s health.—*Edenton N.C. Sent.*

PHENOMENON.—At noon, yesterday, the rare phenomenon of a solar rainbow was very distinctly visible in the heavens.—*Balt. American.*

PETITION.

Of a number of petitioners of the District of Columbia, praying the adoption of measures to promote the establishment of a system of education within the District of Columbia.

To the honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States:

The undersigned respectfully request that measures be taken for an examination of the various systems of education in the States of our Union, and of other nations, as far as practicable; and that the best system which can be devised be adopted for the cities and counties of the District of Columbia, (a portion of the unoccupied grounds of Government would afford some good locations for teachers' and school houses,) and thus an impulse may be given to the introduction of the best systems of education in all the States of our Union, in the new Republics, and in other nations.

[Signed by some hundreds of our respectable citizens.]

P. S.—It is an axiom with some distinguished statesmen that as a Government is a great moral, social, and political partnership, so all the children and youth of the nation should be morally, intellectually, and physically trained and educated for the good of all.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

The following abstract of the bill to reduce the rates of postage, which recently passed the Senate, we copy from the Spectator of this city:

For every single letter for less than 30 miles, 3 cents; over 30 and not over 100, 5 cents; over 100 and not exceeding 300, 10 cents; over 300, 15 cents. Single, double, and quadruple letters in proportion. A quarter of an ounce in weight equivalent to a single letter. Drop letters, 2 cents each. Letters advertised to be charged with the cost of advertising. Newspapers not more than 1,000 square inches, may be sent through the mail by their publishers to their subscribers within 30 miles free of postage; beyond 30 miles and not over 100 miles half a cent; over 100 miles 1 cent. On newspapers of greater size than 1,900 square inches, the same rates of postage as magazines or pamphlets. Printed or lithographed circulars not larger than foolscap, shall be charged 2 cents each sheet for any distance. Pamphlets, periodicals, magazines, 2½ cents each copy weighing not more than an ounce, not exceeding 100 miles; 5 cents for any greater distance; and one cent additional for each additional ounce in weight, a fraction of more than half an ounce to be charged as an ounce. Where the mails are so heavy as to retard materially the speed, a separate mail to be provided for letters. All acts granting the right to any person to receive through the mail free of postage letters or newspapers, &c. annulled.

The officers of the Government having the franking privilege to keep an account of the postage on all official matter received or transmitted through the mail, and the same to be paid out of the contingent funds of their respective Departments. The franking privilege allowed to the three Assistant Postmasters General and the postmasters throughout the Union on letters only relating to the business of the Department. The President, Vice President, widows of ex-Presidents, ex-Vice Presidents, the Heads of Departments, and Attorney General, are allowed the franking privilege; Members of Congress, Delegates of Territories, Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House, authorized to receive and transmit public documents free of postage, and also during each session, and for thirty days preceding and subsequent, to receive all letters not exceeding two ounces; the postage on all over two ounces to be paid out of the contingent fund of each House. In lieu of the privilege heretofore allowed of transmitting written or printed matter, free of postage, to be furnished with a number of free stamps or envelopes, equal to five per day during the session; but any matter enclosed in them, weighing more than two ounces, to be subject to postage. Private expresses and mails forbidden under heavy penalties, as also those transmitting the letters, and the proprietors of the means of conveyance. The free exchange of newspapers between publishers permitted. Heavy penalties provided for all violations of the law. Contracts for the mail hereafter to be given to the lowest bidder, without regard to the mode of conveyance, and the contractor not required to take the stock of his predecessor. Letters to be advertised in papers having the largest circulation, if inserted for a price not greater than is now fixed by law.

FROM CARTHAGENA.—The brig Chaires, Chapman, from Carthage, March 7, arrived at New York on Monday night, brought as passengers Captain Fitzhugh, Lieutenant Noble, and N. Pinckney, Esq., Surgeon United States Navy, from the Pacific. The United States sailed for Mazatlan at the close of February. There is nothing farther of a definite character in relation to the affairs of Peru.

LATE FROM SMYRNA.—We have advices to March 11, two days later than were brought by the Acadia. On the preceding Thursday, the Hon. Dabney S. Carr, the American minister, was received in a private audience by the Sultan, for the purpose of presenting his letters of credence. The Grand Vizir, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, with the first interpreter of the Divan, were present, and the minister was received by his highness with great civility.

EARTHQUAKE AT ST. THOMAS.—Capt. Kelley, of the schr. Forest King, arrived at Charleston from St. Thomas, reports, says the Courier, that a severe shock of an earthquake was experienced at that place about 10 o'clock on the morning of the 19th ult. It caused great excitement for some hours, and numbers of the inhabitants left their houses and fled into the streets for security. We are happy to learn, however, that no damage was sustained. Capt. K. thinks from the direction of the roaring and the violence of the shock, the effects may have been disastrous to the windward islands.

TEXAS.—The Houston Telegraph says: There are now about one hundred and sixty families in the colony in the Cross Timbers. Thirty of them are located west of the Trinity. The company will forfeit its contract for this colony, unless two hundred and fifty families are settled in this tract by the first of June next. Major Ely, the agent of the company, says the company will not incur a forfeiture. They have ample means to fulfil their contract, and are determined to spare no expense to comply with its conditions.

Counterfeit three dollar notes on the New York Stock Bank, have been put in circulation.

VIRGINIA ELECTIONS.

Whigs elected.	Locos elected.
Accomac - - - 1	Accomac - - - 1
Augusta - - - 2	Anne Arundel - - 1
Albemarle - - - 2	Amelia - - - 1
Buckingham - - 2	Bath - - - 1
Berkeley - - - 2	Brooke - - - 1
Bedford - - - 1	Brunswick - - 2
Caroline - - - 1	Botetourt - - - 1
Cumberland - - 1	Chesterfield - - 1
Culpeper - - - 1	Charlotte - - - 1
Campbell - - - 2	Clarke and Warren 1
Charles City - - 1	Dinwiddie - - - 1
Essex - - - 1	Frederick - - - 2
Elizabeth city - 1	Franklin - - - 1
and Warwick - 1	Greenville - - - 1
Fairfax - - - 1	Gooseland - - - 1
Fauquier - - - 2	Halifax - - - 2
Fluvanna - - - 1	Hampshire - - 2
Franklin - - - 1	Harrison - - - 1
Floyd - - - 1	Isle of Wight - - 1
Greenbrier - - 1	King William - - 1
Gloucester - - 1	King and Queen - 1
Henrico - - - 1	Louisa - - - 1
Hanover - - - 1	Lunenburg - - - 1
Hardy - - - 1	Mecklenburg - - 1
James City, &c. - 1	Madison - - - 1
Jefferson - - - 2	Marion - - - 1
King George - - 1	Monongalia - - 1
Lancaster and Richmond - 1	Northumberland - 1
Loudoun - - - 3	Orange and Green - 1
Mathew and)	Prince William - 1
Middlesex - - 1	Prince George - 1
Morgan - - - 1	Preston - - - 1
Marshall - - - 1	Page - - - 1
Mecklenburg - 1	Prince Edward - 1
Montgomery and Pulaski - 1	Rockingham - - 2
Nansemond - - 1	Roanoke - - - 1
Northampton - 1	Stafford - - - 1
Norfolk county - 2	Sussex - - - 1
Norfolk borough - 1	Southampton - 1
Nottoway - - 1	Shenandoah - - 2
Nelson - - - 1	Taylor - - - 1
Ohio - - - 1	Tyler - - - 1
Powhatan - - 1	Total, thus far, 49
Petersburg - - 1	
Princess Anne - 1	Accomac Senator - 1
Richmond city - 1	Halifax Senator - 1
Rockbridge - - 2	
Rappahannock - 1	
Spotsylvania - 1	
Wood and Ritchie - 1	
Wythe - - - 1	
Total, thus far, 61	

Jefferson Senator - 1
Cumberland Senator 1
Richmond Senator - 1
Monroe Senator - 1

Loss and gain.—The Whig gain, thus far, is—Accomac 1, Caroline 1, Norfolk county 2, Matthews and Middlesex 1, Mecklenburg 1, Buckingham 2, Rappahannock 1, Franklin 1, Wood and Ritchie 1, Montgomery and Pulaski 1, Floyd 1, Wythe 1—total 14.

The Whig loss is—Southampton 1, King and Queen 1, Taylor 1, Tyler 1, Accomac Senator 1—total 5.

Parties in the last Legislature stood as follows:

	Senate.	H. of D.	Total.
Locofocos	20	74	94
Whigs	12	60	72
Locofoco majority on joint ballot			22

In the Accomac Congressional District, Mr. Bailly is unquestionably elected by a small majority.

The Richmond Whig says: "Those who wish to understand the true philosophy of the elections must consult the popular vote. The gain, we think, upon the elections of 1840 is between ten and twenty per cent—a plenty."

NAVAL.—The French brig of war Griffon, Commandant Gasquet, sailed from this port on Monday last for Vera Cruz.

The United States ship Vincennes, Captain Buchanan, sailed from this port yesterday, bound on a cruise to several of the West India Islands.

We learn that the United States frigate Potomac will sail this evening or to-morrow morning for Vera Cruz.

A Naval General Court Martial will convene at the Navy Yard, on Monday, the 23d inst., for the trial of Lieutenants John W. West and R. C. Cogdell. The officers ordered to constitute the Court are—Capt. Lawrence Rousseau, President; Captain Thos. Paine, and Commanders Wm. F. Shields, Edward C. Rutledge, Victor M. Randolph, Duncan N. Ingraham, and J. T. Gerry, members. Any five of whom may form a quorum, and proceed with the business of the Court. Captain Rousseau and Commanders Randolph and Shields, have already arrived, and the remainder of the members are expected hourly. Walker Anderson, Esq., is appointed to act as Judge Advocate. Lieut. A. Montgomery, with 40 men, all of the 7th infantry, left here on Thursday last for the Choctawhatchee, on another expedition against the Indians. We learn that they will be absent forty days.—*Pensacola Gaz.* April 20.

DEATHS.

On Tuesday, the 30th ultimo, NOBLE FELICE, son of MARTIN and ANGELINA R. KING, aged three years.

On the 27th of April, MARIAN LENTHALL, infant daughter of ELEXIUS SIMMS.

NOTICE.—The Lecture of the Hon. H. C. FLAGG, on the subject of "Elocution," will be continued on this evening, May 2, before the Union Literary and Debating Society, at the session room of the Baptist Church on Ninth street. The debate on the main question will also be continued. The public are invited to attend.

JNO. H. LANG, Sec'y.

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